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ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the General Assembly the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women, as requested in resolution 46/97 of 16 December 1991 and in accordance with its resolution 39/125 of 14 December 1984.

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ANNEX

Report on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women 1991

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The end of the cold war and a stampede towards multi-party democracy raised expections in 1991 of a peace dividend for development. But development for whom? The acute scarcity of women in powerful legislative, judicial and administrative positions globally provoked the question of who would ensure the representation and participation of women. While the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) can contribute much through sensitization of decision makers, it must also assist in enabling women to make their own concerns known and in advocating for changes that will make a positive difference to their lives. In this regard, it is significant to note that, in all regions, there has been an emergence of women's associations as a direct consequence of the political marginalization of women. UNIFEM has responded by supporting efforts that assist these women to acquire the necessary skills, experience and confidence to participate in a more dynamic and inclusive development process.

2. Much of the work of UNIFEM already focuses on ways of linking women at the micro-level with the macro-policy-making that shapes their future. It is essential that policy makers have a better understanding of how their decisions affect the lives of women at the grass-roots level. It is also essential that women know how to organize and negotiate a better deal for themselves. In 1991, UNIFEM programming assisted women in gaining access to education, health care, land, legal rights, technology and credit, through "hands-on" initiatives and by linking women with policy makers. But it is also clear that enabling women to voice their needs and concerns is only half the battle. The empowerment of women also depends upon the opening of new avenues for access to resources as well. Increasingly, UNIFEM is looking for other innovative ways in which women's needs for credit, technology, training and other resources can be met.

3. At the local level, UNIFEM helped women to raise their living standards through increased income. In Zimbabwe, for example, where rural women spend an inordinate amount of time collecting fuel wood for their homes and for the operation of small-scale enterprises, UNIFEM joined forces with a local non-governmental organization, the Zimbabwe Energy Resource Organization (ZERO). The project introduced fuel-efficient kilns, ovens and cooking stoves to help women brickmakers, bakers and beer brewers conserve fuel wood and their natural environment, and to devote more of their time to production and marketing.

4. At the national level, UNIFEM brought hundreds of women at the grass-roots level into direct contact with policy makers. During the year, it funded a series of national peasant women's summits on the environment in Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan. The summits helped the women to identify and analyse the difficulties they faced and to develop solutions to common problems. The summits also defined complementary roles for Governments and provided forums in which national delegates to the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), could hear what these women

had to say. The women talked about the impact of environmental problems on their daily lives and returned to their villages feeling they had made a connection with the national policy process. They also left the policy makers in no doubt as to the capacity of rural women to analyse their situation and react to environmental problems.

5. At the international level, UNIFEM worked to create a space for women to participate in global forums. Given the profound effect that environmental degradation has had on the lives of poor women, the Fund positioned a Special Adviser on Women, Environment and Development within the UNCED Secretariat to help integrate women's concerns in the planning and preparatory process for the "Earth Summit". During the year, UNIFEM also co-chaired an inter-agency working group on women, environment and development with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and sponsored women farmers, scientists and resource managers, parliamentarians and young leaders to attend international meetings where the strategies and policies for UNCED were being developed.

6. The Government of the Netherlands strengthened these efforts by providing a Technical Adviser on Environment to help build environmental elements into all of the Fund's programming. The adviser also helped to document UNIFEM case studies for an award-winning information kit entitled "Women, Environment and Development", and two video productions. These elements of the UNIFEM environment programme at the local, national and international level reinforced each other and helped to ensure that women were on the Earth Summit's agenda.

7. Attempts to document and obtain official recognition of women's economic productivity were advanced significantly during the year with the publication of "The World's Women: Trends and Statistics 1970-1990". This inter-agency effort by UNIFEM, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Division for the Advancement of Women, and the United Nations Statistical Office 1/ provided a desegregated picture of how women are faring in relation to men. Numbers are essential to advocacy but statistical data have been insufficient to paint a coherent or convincing picture of women's lives for policy makers. This new publication pieced together available data for all regions in the areas of family life, leadership and decision-making, health and child-bearing, education and economics. "The World's Women" demonstrated unequivocally that economic and social gaps between women and men are widening.

II. PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

8. Strategies which best allow UNIFEM to make the most effective use of its limited resources have been identified and promoted by each region. The following are highlights of action taken within each regional programme as it relates to food/agriculture and trade/industry, and macro-policies and national planning - areas of strategic importance to the poorest women in developing countries. These efforts aim not only at meeting women's needs but at contributing to local and world development. They also have the potential for replication elsewhere, as well as for upscaling by other agencies.

A. Africa region

9. In the first half of 1991, a special effort was made to bring to closure a total of 54 projects which had been completed but had not yet been officially and financially closed. This was accomplished after two months of concentrated work in finalizing budgets and obtaining the agreement of executing agencies on final financial figures. Not only did this enable the UNIFEM Africa Section better to manage its project portfolio, but it also made funds available for new commitments.

10. In the second half of the year, the focus of attention was on the portfolio of 70 ongoing projects and on the preparation of new projects informed by the inputs resulting from consultations with UNIFEM staff and key partners in the region. Certain refinements in the approach to the central goal of food and income security were identified and incorporated in the work summarized below.

Agriculture and food security

11. In this sector the Africa Investment Plan (AIP) recognizes that African women have a wealth of knowledge in the production, processing and preparation of indigenous foods. Given this knowledge base and skill in food-related technologies, the Africa programme has identified the need to support women's role thorugh promotion and consumption of indigenous foods.

12. Towards this end, and on the basis of a collaborative planning and action approach to food-security macro planning, UNIFEM, together with the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) and the Niamey Multinational Programming and Operational Centre (MULPOC), is exploring the possibility of promoting locally grown cereals.

13. The Technical Support Unit, in collaboration with the Africa Section, organized two regional meetings at Harare and Dakar in November 1990. International agencies were consulted, including the International Labour Organisation (ILO), UNICEF, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Appropriate Technology Institute (ATI), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Sainte Desjardin, as well as the intra-African agencies including the African Institute for Socio-Economic Development (INADES), the Pan-African Institute for Development (PAID) and the Centre for Agricultural Mechanization and Rural Technology (CARMATEC). Their recommendations were incorporated into the technology support programme for Africa.

14. Implementation of a new technology programme began in Cameroon and Ghana where UNIFEM is developing investment portfolios in the food and agro-processing sector, to provide increased technical and economic viability of selected technologies. This helps to provide a basis for making informed choices about investments in the food sector.

15. Following the serious drought in the Kordofan region in the Sudan, UNDP put $500,000 of its emergency allocation for that country into cost-sharing of the UNIFEM project "Food Grain Storage and Food Grain Banks at the Household Village and Rural Council Level". This represents more than a 100 per cent increase in the project budget, enabling UNIFEM and UNDP to respond to a larger population's urgent need for increased access to appropriate, low-cost and pest-free food grain storage methods.

16. In 1991, the Africa Section, in collaboration with the African American Institute and the UNDP Global and Interregional Programmes, hosted a symposium on "Developing Community-Based Technology in Agriculture, Health and Food Security" based on the work of the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE), in Kenya. A joint exploratory mission with the Technical Unit of ICIPE was undertaken to identify possible future programmes, which resulted in the formulation of a project to expand community access to improved pest and vector management technology by enabling women to earn income from commercialization of such technologies.

17. During this period UNIFEM initiated programmes in the United Republic of Tanzania and in Namibia, where national execution was selected as the most appropriate approach. Although the project "Credit Scheme for Productive Activities of Women in the United Republic of Tanzania", supported by the Government of Denmark, has been operational since February 1991, delivery has been slow and inadequate. Two monitoring missions revealed several operational constraints within the responsible ministries, as well as underestimation of the required preparatory phase and flaws in the design of institutional arrangements and staff motivation. A management system for the project is being reviewed that strengthens the focus on women at the grass-roots level, using intermediary groups to reach them.

18. This and other experiences have shown that, in order for national execution to occur, more lead-time may be required in some countries for building the national capacity, and carrying out the baseline studies prior to finalization of the project document. UNDP must provide timely and comprehensive training in policy and operational aspects. As part of the training, Governments and national institutions, including non-governmental organizations, should be provided with an opportunity to consult and identify the national resources they can allocate over a period of time. Based on experience in the United Republic of Tanzania and in Namibia, UNIFEM confirms that training at the national level in all aspects of project execution should precede approval of programme funds.

19. Gender analysis and training for policy makers in the agricultural/food sector is an important component of the AIP. For example, two gender specialists funded by UNIFEM, joined a mission of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in Cameroon in the formulation of a project to replicate successful small-scale palm oil processing technologies on a national basis. Particular attention was given to including safeguards to enable women to benefit in the upscaling process without loss of opportunity.

20. UNIFEM strives to multiply the effect of its programme initiatives as part of its catalytic role. In the case of a food technology project in Lesotho, women were able to grow fruit and fuel wood trees, to plant and process vegetables, construct a dam and develop a market for the sale of product. The project has been adopted by the Ministry of Community Development, which will link with a similar initiative near the Maputu area.

Industry and trade

21. In response to the problems of poverty, unemployment and harsh consequences of macro-policies such as structural adjustment, a large number of African women draw their livelihoods and incomes from informal trade. In recent missions to Senegal and to the region of the Southern African Development Coordination Confernce (SADCC), and through participation in the Preferential Trade Area Workshop in Zambia, the Africa Section identified women in cross-border trade and micro-enterprise as a distinct group requiring assistance. Steps are being taken to create a favourable policy environment that will support women in these areas. As a first step, a study in Chad, Ghana and Mali will help to determine the scope and nature of women's needs, concerns and opportunities in cross-border trade.

22. Within the policy framework of the SADCC trade and industry sector, support was provided to women in business associations. A joint strategy of assistance involving SADCC, the women's business groups and UNIFEM is emerging as an outcome of a planning seminar attended by three women from each of the 10 member States of SADCC.

23. UNIFEM has entered into an arrangement with UNDP on a project, "Gambia Village Development Trust Fund", which is a major initiative to enable the community, particularly women, to have access to credit and to establish a sustainable rural financing mechanism. This Fund has attracted considerable attention from other donor agencies such as the World Bank, which has agreed to channel its credit allocations through the Trust Fund. The German Association for Technical Cooperation will also channel funds to provide training for blacksmiths, and a non-governmental organization based in the United Kingdom is allocating to the Trust Fund all proceeds from its annual international marathon. Negotiations with the European Economic Community are also under way. The Gambia initiative illustrates very well the catalytic role UNIFEM can play in leveraging funds in support of women.

24. With the assistance of the Technical Unit, a second UNIFEM workshop was held in Senegal for project managers, to work with them on issues of management, monitoring, evaluation, gender analysis, and to redefine their roles as facilitators. The positive response of the managers to having an opportunity to contribute and influence the project performance of UNIFEM, has resulted in a decision by the Africa Section to institutionalize this collaborative training experience for project managers, and hold them in alternate years.

25. Further, in order to build on and maintain the positive aspects of a grass-roots approach in Africa, an in-depth study of credit and technology projects suggests that emphases need to be placed on: (a) the expertise of local African women, with a shift of focus from needs to resources - an appreciation of existing indigenous institutions and talent is central to the AIP; (b) a two-way learning process that involves the women as experts in the training of technicians, managers, and project personnel regarding relevant expertise - this entails support to institutions that are clearly committed to learning from and working collaboratively with women at the grass-roots level; (c) alternative routes for effecting change at local, regional and national planning and policy levels - there are emerging organizational forms and networks with the potential of gaining broad-based support.

Macro-policies and national planning

26. UNIFEM has invested significant resources in efforts to incorporate gender perspectives and the implications of lessons learned from work with women at the grass-roots level, into mainstream development policy. In the period under review, the AIP devoted considerable effort to strengthening these activities in collaboration with national Governments and United Nations partners.

27. In Gambia, for instance, UNIFEM is involved in the UNDP Fifth Country Programme formulation and other UNDP activities in such areas as agricultural diversification and natural resources management; economic management and capacity-building; and poverty alleviation. The Fund also participated in a donor meeting organized by UNDP in Senegal to harmonize development interventions on environment; to stimulate co-funding within the framework of the Fifth Country Programme; and to determine priority intervention sites for donors. A follow-up committee was established that recommended, among other strategies, the integration of women in development components in all environmental projects and programmes.

28. Also in Gambia, where the Women's Bureau has been supported by UNIFEM since 1988, the Fund participated in a Tripartite Review Meeting to consider the Bureau's request for future funding of projects in which they have played an important role in formulation and implementation; for example, a World Bank loan of $7 million directed to women. The project focuses primarily on improvement of agricultural production and training of women farmers as well as improving maternal health.

29. During the reporting period UNIFEM followed closely the final review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Plan of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development. The Fund has supported the general position that there should be a Plan of Action II but that there is a need for shaping a new approach. This would include a reformulation of the concept of "recovery" for Africa to include the refugee crisis, the problem of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immune deficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), considerations for environmental sustainability, science and technology issues and long-term approaches to economic development and regional integration.

30. One response is the Fund's efforts to build a regional capacity in gender analysis and mainstreaming issues related to women in development. A preliminary assessment made in Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania suggests that, despite a significant share of development resources allocated for gender training and the existence of a pool of expertise and knowledge in this subject, efforts to systematize gender training are still quite inadequate. The Africa Section will host a brainstorming session to enable key resource people and institutions from the region to define an action plan for gender training and capacity-building, including methodologies and strategies for incorporating gender issues in macro-policy and national planning.

31. In Zimbabwe a group of donors, together with consultants and researchers, have come together as a small enterprise advisory group. Senior representatives from financial institutions and enterprises also convened a brainstorming session to discuss issues that impede progress in efforts to promote the small enterprise sector. UNIFEM was a major initiator of a series of meetings of this group to discuss the enterprise sector in this early phase of the structural adjustment and trade liberalization programme. Subsequently, CIDA and the Adenauer Foundation provided funding for the sessions.

32. Finally, through building a stronger relationship with the media, the Africa Section hopes to enlist them in an effort to increase gender-sensitive coverage and advocacy for women in development in the region. In Senegal, focal points have been identified in the media to facilitate regular coverage of women's issues. As part of the advocacy efforts of UNIFEM in West and Central Africa, a quarterly bilingual newsletter on women in development "WIDA", is being produced in the Dakar office. During 1992 an overall media strategy for UNIFEM in Africa will be developed.

B. Asia/Pacific and Western Asia regions

33. Increasing the regional visibility of UNIFEM among donor partners, national machineries and key non-governmental organizations has enhanced the scope of options for consideration in implementing the regional plan (Asia and Pacific Development Strategy). A strong regional presence with targeted institutional relationships, and an eye to media opportunities that promote examples of women's participation in development has produced a marked improvement in the type and breadth of projects that are referred to UNIFEM. In 1991 the Asia/Pacific Section managed a portfolio of 55 projects, 13 of which have been closed and seven reformulated.

34. The Asia/Pacific Section's programme of action for the biennium focuses on four specific activities: widening the opportunities for women's participation; developing effective models of mainstreaming; strengthening the capacity of key institutions; and harnessing the media. Advocacy is a significant component of all the activities in the three key programme areas as reported below.

Agriculture and food security

35. The preparation of the UNIFEM strategy for mainstreaming gender issues in agricultural development in Asia is under way. The strategy views agricultural development as a system with macro and micro dimensions and further posits that when these two dimensions are intrinsically linked, they lead to effective mainstreaming. It also takes the view that all smallholders - women and men - are affected by agricultural policies, programmes and projects. Therefore, it is important to respond to both the specific gender concerns of women farmers as well as those of both women and men as smallholders.

36. Innovative approaches are being used to form or strengthen the integral link between the needs and concerns at the grass-roots level with the macro structures where decisions on agriculture are made. As a preliminary step, a preparatory mission supported by the Government of the Netherlands was undertaken to identify national priorities in Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan. The mission concentrated on identifying the "tools" needed by key agricultural institutions to make their policies and programmes gender-responsive. Involvement of affected groups of women is a central element in the development of these tools.

37. An important initiative of the Asia/Pacific Section in 1991 was the organization of four national "summits" of poor peasant women in Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan, culminating in the Peasant Women's Summit on Environment at Lahore, Pakistan, mentioned above. About 400 poor peasant women (i.e., landless or tribal women, marginal farmers, and urban slum dwellers) participated in these summits. They presented their concerns about such issues as women's use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, lack of control over land and ignorance of their needs in forestry and water management, which have had adverse effects on the quality of their lives. They spoke eloquently of water supplies poisoned by the runoff from agricultural chemicals, of degraded forest and eroded hillsides, of soils caked hard by fertilizers, and of the usefulness of insects and earthworms long since disappeared. The summits helped to prepare the participating policy makers for UNCED, was a learning experience for all parties, and also opened the door to a form of policy-making, research, education and legislation which is more accountable to women.

38. As part of the Fund's mainstreaming efforts, training workshops were held for project officers of the multi-million-dollar sericulture project funded by the World Bank in 17 states in India. Also, to address the need for mainstream institutions in Pakistan to provide women access to rural credit, UNIFEM organized a visit of senior policy planners from the federal Government, senior management staff of four major financial institutions, key government agencies and non-governmental organizations to the Production Credit for Rural Women programmé in Nepal and the Grameen Bank and Bangladesh Rural Action Committee programmes in Bangladesh. Federal level follow-up discussions on workable approaches based on the models visited were held and several multilateral and bilateral organizations have expressed interest in supporting the rural credit programme that resulted from those discussions.

39. The proceedings of the 1990 Asian Development Bank/UNIFEM regional conference were published in a book entitled Gender Issues in Agriculture, containing case-studies that include methodologies in the implementation of agriculture programmes and projects and the main speeches on key gender issues in agricultural development covered at the conference. The book is being widely disseminated among agricultural policy makers throughout Asia.

40. Agricultural universities are another key institutional vehicle for ensuring the mainstreaming of gender issues. A UNIFEM initiative enabled educators from the agricultural universities in Bangladesh and Nepal to work together with counterparts at the Agricultural University at Wageningen, the Netherlands, for two weeks to develop a programme that would incorporate gender issues in their core agricultural courses and research programmes. The Dutch educators will follow up with a mission to Asia to finalize the pilot programmes for which co-funding by other donors is being sought.

Trade and industry

41. Asia is now experiencing what is called a second industrial revolution. The rapid growth of the region compelled UNIFEM to develop a strategic approach to meet the needs of women in industry. This was developed through a consultative process with women worker's organizations, academia, ILO and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). The focus is on four types of activities that explore and champion innovation towards creating the right economic environment to enable women workers, whether waged or self-employed, to benefit equally from the fruits of industrial progress. They are as follows: (a) tracking the trends of industrial restructuring with an eye to specific issues containing gender dimensions such as new technology; (b) supporting organizational innovations as seen through collective efforts of women workers and micro-entrepreneurs; (c) providing adequate infrastructure leading to common pools of services such as training and business counselling to benefit self-employed women and small firms; and (d) improving women's access to the so-called formal sector through leadership and skills training schemes. The industries of special interest to UNIFEM are electronics, clothing, food processing and pharmaceuticals. All of these industries have significant numbers of women workers and highlight issues relevant to industrial transformation.

42. A regional project, "Asian Women Workers", executed by the Committee for Asian Women - a long-standing regional organization - is the first initiative within the industry programming strategy. The project provides training workshops and study tours for grass-roots women workers, and documents their experiences in order to track the impact of recent trends. Also, in the past year, collaborative activities have been undertaken with ILO, UNIDO and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to develop innovative projects that can serve as models for gender-responsive industrial development.

43. With the assistance of the Technical Support Unit, a pilot project on venture capital for micro-enterprises in Thailand was formulated featuring

venture capital as a vehicle for poverty alleviation. The project is based on a comprehensive UNIFEM study on the needs of low-income women entrepreneurs and the viability of a national venture capital company to meet their financing needs.

44. In Mongolia, where economic liberalization has led to rising unemployment, especially among women, UNIFEM is providing support to the Mongolian Women's Federation to test a model of micro-lending with potential for wide replications among the banking and donor communities.

Macro-policy and planning

45. UNIFEM interventions in this programme area focused on advocacy as well as development of innovative conceptual and methodological tools, such as data and statistics collection and analysis, and gender training. The Asia/Pacific Section evolved a response to the dramatic political changes in the region in Afghanistan and Cambodia in collaboration with UNDP and the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development of the United Nations Secretariat. Following a statistical assessment mission to these countries, support will be given to the Cambodia Women's Union to build its capacity to use data and statistics to advocate for women's participation in development. In Afghanistan, gender concerns will be promoted among government ministries, multilateral agencies and non-governmental organizations. On the micro-level, support will be provided to grass-roots women's groups to build their capacity to implement projects that improve their livelihood.

46. The substantial increase in the rate of labour force participation recorded in the 1991 Census in India can be linked to the continued support by UNIFEM, with UNFPA and national non-governmental organizations, of the Registrar General's Office to ensure accurate counting of women's work. The Governments of Nepal and Pakistan have also requested technical assistance and funding from UNIFEM to make their census activities gender-sensitive. UNIFEM is collaborating closely with the United Nations Statistical Office 1/ and the State Statistical Bureau in China, which is formulating a project to strengthen the gender-responsiveness of the statistical system. As part of the project, a popular booklet entitled "Women and Men in China", showing statistics on the relative status of women and men in various areas of life, will be published in time for the Fourth World Conference for Women, to be held at Beijing in 1995.

47. An important example of the advocacy work of UNIFEM is the assistance it has provided the Philippine Government in formulating its Development Plan for Women as a companion-piece to the Medium-Term National Development Plan, 1988-1992. The National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women, with the technical assistance of UNIFEM, developed a module showing the key interventions made in the formulation of a gender-responsive national development plan. Training modules for Governments and non-governmental organizations on gender planning and advocacy are also in preparation. This innovative model has elicited interest from other Governments such as Indonesia, which sent a UNIFEM-sponsored study team to the Philippines.

Subsequently, the Indonesian Ministry on the Role of Women organized a seminar, the results of which will be used by the Government in formulating its programme to integrate women into the mainstream national development planning.

48. The Gulf war resulted in a serious setback for the work of UNIFEM in Western Asia. The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), located at Baghdad, has been temporarily relocated to Amman, and has picked up the execution of a number of UNIFEM projects after almost a year's absence. In consultation with the Governments and women's non-governmental organizations, a programme of action for widening women's employment opportunities is under formulation for Jordan, Lebanon and Yemen. In Yemen, UNIFEM is working with UNDP to develop a revolving loan fund for women participants in a large UNDP-funded project.

49. In the Pacific, the pilot project to integrate women in the national planning process in the Cook Islands, the Marshall Islands, Papua New Guinea and Tuvalu has involved the central planning units, women's machineries, and national women's organizations in a series of participatory exercises. UNDP has indicated its support for the expansion of the project to other Pacific Island countries upon termination of the pilot project in 1992.

C. Latin America and the Caribbean region

50. In the past year the Latin American and Caribbean Section focused on further development of subregional strategies; identification of new partners in the region; assessment of already existing partnerships; and identification and articulation of projects within subregional programmes. The Section also managed a portfolio of 49 projects. In addition to the three key programme areas of UNIFEM, attention was also being given to emerging issues of growing importance to women in the region, namely refugees and displaced persons; environment; and violence against women as a structural issue which inhibits women's full participation in the development process.

51. The regional programme, the Participatory Action Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean (PAPLAC), is implemented within the framework of five subregional strategies: (a) Central America, Mexico and Panama, and the Spanish-speaking Caribbean; (b) the English-speaking Caribbean; (c) the Andean countries; (d) Brazil and Paraguay; and (e) the Southern Cone. The focus of the final strategy document will be on institutional strengthening of women's organizations and offices; management training; greater gender awareness and gender sensitization in the private and public sectors; action-oriented research in the priority areas; and a systematic and structured exchange of information.

Agriculture and food security

52. Women in this region, as in other regions of the world, have major responsibilities in the production, dissemination and preparation of food for

their families and communities. However, because of the major obstacles they face in carrying out these responsibilities, UNIFEM is helping to build women's capabilities at the different stages of the food cycle; to reduce the unnecessary burdens of production; and to contribute to an enabling policy environment which recognizes and supports women's role in food security.

53. UNIFEM is collaborating with the Interamerican Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA) and would like to strengthen the gender component of the IICA Centre for Programmes and Investment Projects (CEPPI), which produces agricultural-sector assessments in the countries of the region. IICA has an outreach into 32 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. UNIFEM has supported the inclusion of a gender perspective in an "Agricultural Policies, Women and Agricultural Development" project with IICA; held training workshops with staff in two centres; and conducted a senior management sensitization seminar in collaboration with IFAD.

54. An Appropriate Technology Survey for El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico and Nicaragua was carried out in consultation with the UNIFEM Technical Support Unit. The survey confirmed that most technology projects lack a gender component, and there is no specific attention to helping women save time and energy, increase their productivity, improve their physical conditions and increase their leisure time. The results of the survey, together with a draft directory of organizations working on appropriate technologies in these countries, is now available. In the Andean region, a survey was also completed on human resources and institutions working on research, food technology and women's programmes in Ecuador and Peru. Based on this information, a regional consultants' roster and directory of institutions working in this field is being created to facilitate the UNIFEM effort to disseminate information on appropriate technologies.

55. In order to facilitate women's participation in agriculture and other productive aspects of their economies, UNIFEM supports women's productive activities through the provision of credit, the dissemination of information on technologies, and the sensitization of policy makers. One such example is the ongoing "Assessment of Women's Participation in the Credit Union Movement" in Suriname. Recommendations resulting from the first phase of the assessment were: organizational restructuring; activities to overcome obstacles encountered by women in terms of access to services and mobility within the movement; and the development of training modules which respond to the needs of poor women. This project will serve as a pilot experience for similar projects throughout the Caribbean.

Trade and industry

56. The overall objectives of the region's work in this programme area are to develop innovative approaches to overcome the constraints women face in the informal sector. For example, although women's participation in the informal sector is increasing, the returns are declining. The programme encourages credit, training, pricing and other policies that reflect gender considerations. The strategy is to intervene at the regional level where two

projects have been developed in very close collaboration with the Technical Support Unit.

57. In collaboration with Acción Internacional, a well-established non-governmental organization with considerable experience in operating credit programmes through local affiliates in Latin America, UNIFEM is formulating a regional credit project, "Informal Sector Credit for Women". The project will use an innovative Bridge Fund mechanism which taps into local resources in the host countries, that is, with the security of a letter of credit provided by an offshore bank, local banks will extend credit lines to Acción's local affiliates in Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia and Guatemala. They, in turn, will lend to women who operate micro-enterprises - reaching and servicing over 15,000 women. A project on this large a scale is new in UNIFEM history and offers an opportunity for further expansion by local intermediary institutions, non-governmental organizations and banks.

58. Another project, "Preparatory Technology Support to the Andean Subregion", will provide technical support to the common priority areas of a five-country "Technology Dissemination Action Plan", chosen during a participatory planning meeting to create a multidisciplinary and self-sustained collaboration at the national level. One outcome was the formation of inter-institutional committees for the advancement of technology dissemination to women in Bolivia and Colombia. These initiatives have spawned additional activities at country levels.

59. UNIFEM has provided assistance to the Central American Development Bank to enhance women's access to financial resources by influencing bank policies. A situational analysis of women in Central America was also made available for use by the Bank and for wider audiences in the region.

60. The UNIFEM Regional Technical Adviser has taken up her new assignment from her base in Quito. Plans are under way to give visibility to successful stories of women using appropriate technologies in small-scale industries. One such plan is a regional award "Mujeres y Tecnologías Alimentarias" in collaboration with a regional non-governmental organization, Comisión para la Educación de Adultos en America Latina (CEAAL).

Macro policies and national planning

61. In several countries of the region, women's movements have articulated pressing needs that apparently go beyond their Government's ability to respond. Creating and consolidating institutional structures and channels through which women can express their needs is, therefore, a strategic priority.

62. The programme for this region is geared to enhance the integration of gender issues into national policies and plans. There are principally three components: (a) strengthening women's capacity to express their aspirations and needs; (b) assisting national and regional governmental and non-governmental entities to acquire the ability to incorporate gender issues

into national legislation, policies and development; and (c) making operational gender-sensitive programmes.

63. Some examples of support in these areas are: assisting a non-governmental organization in Panama in the preparation of a Women's Profile - an operational document reflecting the situation, needs and aspirations of women in Panama; designing a strategy to develop and support environmental projects in Brazil in cooperation with other international and national organizations, taking account of Brazilian environmental plans and policies; and supporting a "Regional Training Seminar in Project Formulation with Gender Perspectives" (two-week seminar at IICA facilities in Costa Rica) to train middle-level technicians from eight countries in various aspects of project formulation.

64. A landmark intervention by UNIFEM was its participation in the Second Regional Conference on Poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Ecuador, which resulted in the adoption of the gender perspective as a government principle for the "Action Strategies for the Nineties". As the document states: "The incorporation of the gender perspective in the process of development without poverty entails, in the first place, a reconsideration of basic economic concepts which have traditionally excluded the household domain. This makes it necessary, among other things, to redefine domestic and unpaid work as productive work and to include it in national accounts and labour statistics. In the second place, restructuring of gender relations requires two levels of intervention: strategic actions which have long-term implications and look for new alternatives in labour relations, in legislation and in responsibilities for reproductive tasks; and practical actions with more immediate implications, aimed at satisfying requirements derived from prevailing conditions; for example, day care homes and other community services for working mothers." 2/

65. UNIFEM has also worked jointly with other United Nations organizations. In Colombia, UNDP/UNIFEM are providing technical assistance to the Advisory Committee on Youth, Women and Family to elaborate a plan for women to support the consolidation of the Committee as an administrative entity within the Presidency. UNICEF/UNIFEM collaborated in regional institution-building through the Women and Child Survival Projects on studies to eliminate sexist stereotypes in primary school textbooks in Belize, Honduras and soon in Costa Rica. A basic training manual, "Promoting our Self-Esteem" is being distributed by the project to various groups throughout the region.

66. Another new and important initiative taken by UNIFEM concerns the refugee population. Collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Conference on Central American Refugees (CIREFCA), and the Development Programme for Displaced Persons, Refugees and Returnees in Central America (PRODERE) has begun. UNIFEM is providing technical assistance in defining the content and design of special meetings, as well as the conceptual framework for the approach to gender and development.

67. UNIFEM is cooperating with UNDP in its efforts to assist the Government of El Salvador to strengthen its Plan for National Reconstruction (part of the Chapultepec peace agreements). The Fund's participation is primarily to assist with incorporating the gender perspective in the Plan and its package of project proposals.

68. The Section's commitment to bringing solutions to the pervasive problem of violence against women in the region is illustrated by the support given to Asociacion Venezolana para una Educacion Sexual Alternativa (AVESA), a widely respected non-governmental organization based in Caracas, Venezuela. Through funds from the Development Assistance Committee facility, AVESA has started gender awareness and training of police officers in the attention given to victims of sexual assault. The initial pilot project that trained 120 officers has now been extended and will reach over 1,000 police trainees as well as 250 members of the judicial police. The courses have been integrated as part of the curriculum of the Police Academy.

D. Monitoring and evaluation

69. Feedback from funded programmes and projects on what has worked, what has not, and why, is critical to UNIFEM programming efforts and advocacy function. The UNDP Governing Council's approval in June 1991 of the creation of a core post for evaluation in UNIFEM has enhanced the capacity to document experiences for possible replication/adoption by others, as well as to apply lessons learned to the appraisal process of new projects.

70. During the first half of 1991, two evaluations were undertaken in collaboration with the operation Units and UNIFEM regional coordinators on (a) gender training, and (b) national resource persons in the Africa region. In the second half of the year, an assessment was made of UNIFEM-supported projects on credit and technology for women. Some of the highlights of these assessments are summarized below.

71. Gender training has increased in importance in the Fund's mainstreaming programmes in recent years. Several gender-training projects directed to policy makers, planners and women's machineries were funded by UNIFEM, with regional coordinators actively involved, often as trainers, in most of these projects. However, it remained to be seen if the correlation could be made between gender training as a mainstreaming tool and women's increased access to mainstream resources. The assessment started with a desk review of all UNIFEM gender-training projects, followed by an International Conference on Gender Training and Development Planning, co-hosted by the Population Council and the Christen Michelsen Institute at Bergen, Norway, where UNIFEM regional coordinators and trainers from Asia and the Pacific, Africa and Latin America exchanged their experiences and common concerns with participants.

72. The Fund's own consultations at Bergen, facilitated by two eminent experts on the subject, concluded that: UNIFEM staff should be trained in state-of-the-art gender analysis and planning skills, and that in the future,

gender training should be built into all grass-roots projects supported by UNIFEM as an additional tool for the empowerment of women. A UNIFEM Information Paper on this assessment, entitled "Gender training: experiences, lessons and future directions", is available.

73. An initiative to assign national resource persons in Burkina Faso, Chad and the Niger to develop models for mainstreaming gender issues in the national planning and donor round-table processes was launched in 1986-1987, with a generous grant of the Government of the Netherlands, under the supervision of the UNIFEM Regional Coordinator based at Dakar. The 1991 assessment of this work produced the following initial findings: in Burkina Faso, the national resource person served as an important link in the development of a national framework for women - a multisectoral strategy for endorsement by all parties concerned and for submission to donors. Although the intervention of the national resource person in the Niger resulted in a comprehensive document on women in development - presented by UNIFEM at the Donors' Conference at Geneva in 1987 - there is no indication that in this case the learning has been carried through the follow-up sectoral consultations, nor has it influenced the current national planning process. This is partially due to insufficient monitoring and material support to the national resource persons, and partially to internal government programme and organization shifts. The formula adopted in Chad consisted of placing the national resource person in the Minister's cabinet at the newly established Ministry of Social/Women's Affairs. Although this position was expected to give high visibility, functions remained more administrative than substantive.

74. It should be noted that in the present context of government restructuring, national machineries are often merged with the Ministry of Health (as they were in the early 1980s). Women's political organizations are being dissolved in the wake of new multi-party systems and, perhaps more critically, women are not very involved in the unfolding "democratization" process that will shape new policy frameworks for their countries. The Africa Section is in the process of redefining its regional programme and its mainstream strategies will be reshaped and focused on the specific role of UNIFEM and the national resource persons in light of the constraints and opportunities of the current situation and emerging paradigms.

75. Concerning the assessment of the Fund's work in credit and technology for women, one major lesson that ties into the fundamental principles that guide the work is the importance of women's ownership over externally supported activities if these activities are to become effective and sustainable. Evaluation reports continue to underscore the need to involve and empower women in the process of project and programme identification, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

76. The UNIFEM Project Appraisal Committees (PAC) continue to be a valuable forum for collective review of projects submitted to it for funding with respect to their relevance and potential for catalysing mainstream resources for women. The process has provided opportunity to build into the projects both in-house and external technical expertise, contributing to the

improvement of project quality and performance. Increased efforts to improve the quality of the projects during the design and appraisal processes have narrowed considerably the time gap that previously existed between the approval and implementation stages.

77. UNIFEM is committed to creating the space for women and strengthening their voices, in order for them to organize, network, negotiate and advocate at various levels of decision-making from the community to the global arena. Monitoring progress in this direction and in the mainly qualitative process of change requires the development of appropriate instruments for monitoring and evaluation. This is part of the challenge of the 1992 work plan for the Unit.

E. Global initiatives

78. In order to fulfil a spearheading role on issues related to women in development, UNIFEM continues to intervene strategically in those areas recognized as being of greatest need and concern to women. A number of the key interventions were directly related to future United Nations initiatives system-wide and international conferences. The Fund, therefore, seeks to strengthen cooperation with other United Nations bodies, particularly those divisions mandated to promote women in development, and with major donor groups. UNIFEM also sets out to explore and address emerging issues which are global in nature but rooted in the regions. The priority areas of concern in the 1991 work programme are outlined below.

Environment

79. As was mentioned in the introduction, with UNIFEM support, a Special Adviser on Women, Environment and Development was appointed to help to mainstream gender issues within the UNCED process. During the present reporting period, the UNIFEM Special Adviser to UNCED was instrumental in developing guidelines for the formulation of future policies, programmes, legislation, procedures and practices that support the advancement of women in the field of environment and development. She also led the implementation of a symposium on "Women and Children First", requested by the Preparatory Committee at its first session to analyse the relationship between poverty and environmental degradation. The report of that meeting was presented to the Preparatory Committee at its third session and formed the basis of many ideas that were incorporated in Agenda 21. The Special Adviser has also designed a questionnaire on the role of women in sustainable development, in order to expand the process of national reporting to the Conference.

80. Although overall policies that guide the UNCED work plan include the incorporation of the gender dimension into all aspects of its work, the need for a distinct treatment of gender in these mainstreaming efforts is not yet fully recognized. Furthermore, the degree of administrative and budgetary support to mainstreaming gender concerns is still viewed as inadequate.

81. To institutionalize the appropriate integration of environmental aspects

into the overall operations of UNIFEM activities, a Technical Adviser, funded by the Government of the Netherlands, took up her duties in UNIFEM in early February 1991. In addition to providing technical reviews of ongoing projects in Bolivia, Senegal, Sao Tome, and Zimbabwe, preparing case studies on UNIFEM environment-related projects, participating in several workshops and preparing a range of information packages on women in development, she also made substantive contributions to the Preparatory Committee process, and assisted in promoting the issue of women in development in several international conferences, inter alia, the UNEP-sponsored "Global Assembly Partners in Life", and the "Women's World Congress for a Healthy Planet" sponsored by the International Policy Action Committee on Environment and Development (IPAC), held at Miami, Florida, in November 1991.

Refugees

82. Almost 75 per cent of the world's 15 million refugees are women and children. Their numbers are growing rapidly and their needs have expanded beyond the mandated capacity of the traditional front-line agencies to provide emergency relief and protection. There are refugees in more than 100 countries today and some of them have been living in camps and emergency situations for generations. Children have been born and raised under the protection of agencies like UNHCR and have spent their lives waiting for political solutions that would allow their families to return home. The vast majority of these families are headed and supported by women who, in the process of flight from war or natural disasters, have lost husbands, fathers, sons, and brothers to combat, to recruitment into resistance armies, or to migration in search of work. Others have simply been abandoned to raise their children alone.

83. The great majority of refugee women find themselves even further removed from essential services and development support than they were in the original communities. Refugee settlements are usually managed and administered by men who tend to give preference to male heads of household for identity cards, food rations, medical cards and other relief. Women are doubly disadvantaged, lacking a fair share of available resources as well as protection from exploitation and abuse. UNIFEM has begun to promote gender-awareness in refugee situations and to support models that empower refugee women themselves and remove the barriers to their access to humanitarian assistance.

84. In preparing the Fund's response to a "United Nations system-wide assessment of the urgent needs of refugee women", UNIFEM developed a policy paper providing a conceptual framework for regional and global activities, as well as strengthening its collaboration with UNHCR. The foremost concern in this area is the mainstreaming of the needs of refugee women through improvements in gender-sensitive data collection, camp and settlement administration, delivery of basic services, and the protection and increase of female personnel at all levels of refugee work. Plans are being considered for the Fund's possible participation in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee for Humanitarian Assistance and for ways to ensure UNIFEM involvement in the most strategic manner as the new structures evolve. The Fund's principal role

will be as a catalyst to ensure voice and visibility for women's issues along the full continuum of relief to development assistance, and to develop appropriate programming models.

85. During the year, UNIFEM developed a project in war-torn Liberia to promote food security, improved shelter, and income-earning activities for women displaced by the fighting. The Fund also prepared a recovery programme to help women in Jordan, Lebanon and Yemen who had been severely affected by the economic disruption caused by the Gulf war. Other initiatives to work with refugees and displaced women in Cambodia, El Salvador, Malawi and Peru are under way. Each project looks at women as a resource rather than a burden. Women are asked to identify their priority concerns and to become involved in the management and operation of the approaches adopted. UNIFEM will continue to work with UNHCR and other agencies to integrate the appropriate response to women's needs in all areas of refugee assistance and development.

Violence against women

86. Linked to the situation of women and family is the issue of violence against women. While the problem of violence is usually viewed as a domestic and societal problem, and is therefore discussed under the themes of "equality and peace" of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, examination of the development aspect of the issue is gaining credence in international forums. A resolution of the International Parliamentarian Union (IPU) states that violence and the threat of violence are in direct contradiction to development and equality goals, and calls on Governments to examine the possibility of adding a protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. The Fund has played and will continue to play an advocacy role at different meetings on the issue of violence against women as an impediment to women's full participation in development, and will fund pilot activities that are innovative and lend themselves to replication and/or upscaling by others.

Fourth World Conference on Women, 1995

87. As momentum gathered in 1991 for the reform of international institutions and the restructuring of the United Nations itself, UNIFEM began to concern itself with two special events scheduled for 1995. The first is a year-long celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations, which will most likely include initiatives to reform international institutions and the restructuring of the United Nations. The second is the Fourth World Conference on Women, which will examine the gains and/or setbacks for women in the decade since the 1995 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace. This conference will also review the agenda for women to the year 2000 and beyond. A new challenge, which crystallized for UNIFEM in 1991, was the need to ensure not only that the United Nations reform initiatives are significant and measurable for women, but also that the political and economic objectives for the advancement of women at each of these events are in tune.

88. The Fund has had increased opportunities for collaboration with the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Office at Vienna. UNIFEM and the Division held a joint technical briefing and led an informal debate for women parliamentarians at the Eighty-fifth Conference of IPU. In addition, the Division requested UNIFEM and the UNDP Division for Women in Development jointly to prepare a background document reviewing the actual integration of women in development through an assessment of technical assistance for use at the inter-agency seminar organized by the Division for the Advancement of Women, in December 1991 at Vienna. Recommendations included the need for government accountability, undertaking comparative research, a new conceptual framework for women in development, strengthening national capacity, reorienting funds to "close gaps", and speeding up action to achieve equality under existing laws. The background document can be seen as a first step in opening up new perspectives on women in development which will then need to be carried forward to the Fourth World Conference on Women.

F. Outreach and information

89. The UNIFEM constituency of dedicated supporters in donor countries, non-governmental organizations such as ZONTA International and Soroptimist International, and UNIFEM National Committees 3/ have demonstrated their increasing effectiveness in advocating for UNIFEM programmes. Total contributions in 1991 from non-governmental organizations, national committees, corporations and private individuals increased by 50 per cent, the largest amount ever from private sources. The strength of private support to UNIFEM also contributed to creating a willingness amongst Governments to increase their contributions despite the global economic recession.

90. In several countries, International Women's Day, 8 March, has become the annual focus for National Committee attention. In March 1991, the Director addressed groups in Norway and Finland. In Australia, the National Committee, in collaboration with the Government, sponsored events highlighting the visit of the Honourable Phoebe Asiyo, UNIFEM Goodwill Ambassador. The Australian Prime Minister and other leading officials participated in these events.

91. In April 1991, representatives from 13 countries with National Committees met at Turin, Italy, at the Fourth Global meeting of UNIFEM National Committees to exchange information and ideas regarding mutual goals and strategies. As a result, representatives returned to their countries inspired to move ahead in the 1990s, knowing that they are part of a growing international movement for UNIFEM

92. UNIFEM continued its collaboration with the United States-based Noel Foundation, which sponsored the first biennial awards for women in 1990. The Noel Foundation is working to raise its pledge of US$ 1 million. To date the Fund has received over $300,000.

Advocacy

93. During the reporting period, the advocacy facility approved by the Consultative Committee at its thirtieth session became operational. Two consultants were hired to assist the head of the Section in planning a comprehensive and forward-looking communications strategy for UNIFEM, as well as to investigate the various options open to UNIFEM for marketing and distributing its publications and advocacy materials. Plans are under way to publish a UNIFEM newsletter, and to establish links with other agencies' publications to strengthen and support the planned advocacy role.

94. Budget and funds available to the advocacy section from other sources have been utilized to facilitate a variety of advocacy activities. Books purchased from the United States-based Overseas Education Fund after it closed down its operations are being actively marketed with over $40,000 already accrued from sales. Two videos are being prepared on two aspects of UNIFEM work: (a) environment and development; and (b) women entrepreneurs. Preparation of five additional technology sourcebooks has commenced with funds from the Government of Italy; and an ongoing UNIFEM/International Women's Tribune Centre Resource Centre Project is providing technical assistance to staff and consultants.

95. The Fund's presence at the Board meeting of the International Training and Research Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) laid the groundwork for collaborations such as UNIFEM backup support to INSTRAW at the International Conference on Water and the Environment held at Dublin. Discussions are under way to involve INSTRAW, the United Nations Statistical Office, the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development and other agencies in research and analysis of the roles of women in low-technology mining.

96. Together with the women in development focal point in the United Nations Statistical Office, 1/ the Director of UNIFEM was involved in a series of activities to promote awareness and sales of The World's Women: 1970-1990, 4/ launched in June 1991. The book is now selling at over 1,000 copies a month and has become a United Nations best seller. General Assembly resolution 46/98 of 16 December 1991, along with a strong endorsement of the Commission on the Status of Women, has ensured that this publication will be updated as part of preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995. The key role of UNIFEM, in this example of inter-agency cooperation at its best, has been to ensure that the publication is presented and promoted in a style that makes it accessible to a wide audience.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

A. Management

97. During 1991, several UNIFEM Section Chiefs participated in the management skills workshop series organized by UNDP. Other staff received training in various software applications for personal computers. Field personnel in all regions were also provided with a version of the Budget Management System containing the same information available to Headquarters staff. This database is now being updated at least quarterly from New York. Further enhancements and training are planned during 1992 to support the programme staff when some aspects of project financial management devolve to the regional sections.

98. Discussions continue with the UNDP Division of Finance with respect to possible changes in the accounting process to facilitate further the Fund's ability to capture and record expenditure data in a more timely and accurate way. Decisions on this matter will depend on the progress made by UNDP in the development of its new integrated systems, and the feasibility of accommodating the specific needs of UNIFEM within, or parallel to, that system. In the meantime, some barriers have been removed which now enables UNIFEM to execute some programmes directly. This has permitted stronger management controls, better use of resources, and faster response to needs at the field level.

99. The review of the Knowledge Bank was completed, and an evaluation of future options is currently under way. With the creation of the new Monitoring and Evaluation Unit, the requirement for a computer-based programme system has been recognized. The needs will be fully identified and decisions made as to how best to meet them in the short term.

B. Financial status

100. UNIFEM draws financial, advocacy and other support from a broad international constituency, including Governments, non-governmental organizations, foundations, corporations, private individuals and its network of National Committees.

101. Financial support from Governments increased by almost 35 per cent during 1991. It is particularly noteworthy that the Government of the Netherlands doubled its contribution for the year, while the Governments of Liechtenstein, Luxembourg and Suriname supported UNIFEM for the first time. More than 100 Governments have now contributed to the Fund. Together with the significant increases in financial support from private sources, this constitutes an overall 26 per cent increase in income from all sources.

102. At the same time, the Fund continued to place a high priority on programme delivery to ensure that the increased resources were being effectively spent. Consequently, the programme delivery rate in 1991 improved by over 30 per cent in relation to 1990 figures.

IV. CONCLUSION

103. As we approach 1995, the role that UNIFEM plays in advancing the socio-economic condition of women becomes increasingly critical. In our efforts to remove those constraints that hinder the full participation of women in the development process, UNIFEM acknowledges the ongoing support of all who share in this vision.

Notes

1/ Effective 22 June 1992, the United Nations Statistical Office has been renamed the Statistical Division.

2/ Towards Development without Poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean, Memorias de la II Conferencia Regional sobre la Pobreza (English/Spanish) (United Nations Development Programme, Editorial Presencia Ltds., Bogota, 1991), p. 124.

3/ Official committees: Australia, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Sweden and United States of America.

Committees in process of forming: Austria, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

4/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.90.XVII.3.